Statement

Table-1

Rupees per unit of foreign currency

(Based on FEDAI Indicative Rates)

Currency	September	October	November	December	January	February	March (upto 16.3.95)
Pound Sterling	49.0444 (-1.34)	50.3967 (-2.68)	49.8302 (1.14)	48.8607 (1.98)	49.3578 (-1.01)	49.3380 (0.04)	50.9161 (-3.10)
Deutsche Mark	20.2308 (-1.04)	21.3651 (-5.31)	20.3974 (4.74)	19.9609 (2.19)	20.4685 (-2.48)	20.8566 (-1.86)	22.4667 (-7.17)
Netherlands Guilder	18.0675 (-1.12)	18.4295 (-1.96)	18.1845 (1.35)	17.8545 (1.85)	18.3064 (-2.47)	18.6190 (-1.68)	20.0385 (-7.08)
Swiss Franc	24.3343 (-2.18)	24.6968 (-1.47)	24.2182 (1.98)	23.6430 (2.43)	24.4356 (-3.24)	24.6645 (-0.93)	26.8651 (-8.19)
Belgian Franc	0.807 (-0.75)	1.0033 (-2.25)	0.9909 (1.25)	0.9718 (1.97)	0.9961 (-2.44)	1.0144 (-1.80)	1.0877 (-6.74)
French Franc	5.9225 (-1.15)	6.0303 (1.79)	5.9359 (1.59)	5.8049 (2.26)	5.9339 (-2.17)	6.0051 (-1.19)	6.3397 (-5.28)

Figures in brackets show appreciation (+)/depreciation (-) of the Rupee over the preceding month.

(c) Fiscal and monetary concessions, preferential access to imports, custom duty exemptions and a stable and realistic exchange rate are fundamental elements of the export drive and thereby to bridge trade gap.

Stainless Steel Blanking Line

2239. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 251 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that public sector Salem Steel plant has supplied stainless steel blanking line to UK royal mint in the past;

(b) how much stainless steel blanking line has been used by each of our mints for manufacture of coins Mint during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) how much stainless steel blanking line from Salem Steel plant has been used by each mint, year-wise;

(d) how much stainless steel blanking line has been imported by each mint during this period, Mint-wise and year- wise;

(e) the foreign exchange spent in this regard; year-wise;

(f) how many mints are there in the country, their location, production and the number of employed; and

(g) whether Government would set up a mint at Salem so that stainless steel blanking line of Salem Steel plant can be used for this mint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Salem Steel Plant has not supplied any blanking lines in the past.

(in metric tons)

Sl. No.	Particulars of the Mints	1992-93 (through conversion agent abroad)	1992-93 (indigenous)	1993-94 (through conversion agent abroad)	1993-94 (indigenous)	1994-95 (through conversion agent abroad)	1994-95 (indigenous)	Total
1.	India Govt. Mint, Bombay	52.8	Nil	437.7	Nil	169	594	1253.5
2.	India Govt. Mint, Calcutta	—	Nil	395.7	Nil	189	618.9	1203.6
3.	India Govt. Mint,Hyderabad	—	Nil	340.4	Nil	130	508	978.4
4.	India Govt. Mint, Noida	204.9	Nil	754.1	Nil	2122	919	4000.1
	TOTAL:	257.7	Nil	1927.9	Nil	2610	2639.9	7435.5

(b) to (d) Mint-wise and year-wise details of the stainless steel blanks from Salem Steel Plant used by each of the India Government Mints, imported as well as indigenous, to the extent available are indicated on previous page.

(e) No foreign exchange component is involved since the payment has been made for the supplies to Salem Steel Plant in Indian Rupees.

(f) Details of Mints with their location in the country with their production target and employees strength are indicated below:—

Sl.	Particulars of Mints	Production target 1994-95 (in million pieces)	Employees strength
1.	India Government Mint, Bombay	380	2687
2	India Government Mint, Calcutta	410	2762
3	India Government Mint, Hyderabad	270	1035
4.	India Government Mint, Noida	410	294

(g) There is no proposal under consideration of Government for setting up a Mint at Salem.

CBI Enquiry against Bank Officials

2240. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of bank officers against whom the C.B.I. has been conducting an enquiry during its investigation into the securities scam;

(b) whether any chargesheet has been filed against them; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the action taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c). The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has reported that its Bank Security and Fraud Cell has been conducting investigations against 103 officers of nationalised/private/foreign banks in connection with irregularities in securities transactions.

Chargesheets have been filed against 37 of the 103 bank officers and the cases against these 37 bank officers are pending trial.

''नाबार्ड'' द्वारा सहकारी बैंकों' को दिये जाने वाली सुविधा

2241. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ''नाबार्ड'' द्वारा सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के लिये सहकारी बैंकों को पुनर्वित्त की सुविधा नहीं दी जाती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सार्वजनिक हित के इस कार्यक्रम की उपेक्षा किये जाने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) क्या सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली हेतु साख की रियायती दर पर पुनर्वित्त सुविधा प्रदान करने पर विचार किया जायेगा?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम.वी. चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति): (क) से (ग) राष्ट्रीय कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास बैंक (नाबार्ड) से आशा की जाती है कि वे केवल उत्पादन उन्मुख कार्यकलापों का वित्तपोषण करें। चूंकि सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली पूर्णत: एक व्यापारिक कार्य है जो राज्य सरकार द्वारा सहायता प्राप्त कल्याण योजना है अत: सहकारी बैंकों को अपने ही संसाधनों से इस प्रणाली को सहयोग प्रदान करना होगा।

Computerisation of regional centre of I.T. at Bombay

2242. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the regional centre of the Income Tax Department at Bombay has been computerised;

(b) if so, the details thereof with backgroud;

(c) whether such facility has some objectives;

(d) if so, the details thereof with estimated cost incurred thereon;

(e) whether Government propose to extend this facility at other regional centres of country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.